

Message Text

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ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 AGRE-00 USIA-06 AID-05 EB-07 AF-08 ARA-06
EA-07 EUR-12 NEA-10 COME-00 ISO-00 TRSE-00 SP-02
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FODAG

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: FAO, UN, AID, EAGR

SUBJECT: FAO COUNCIL ELECTION OF FIVE MEMBERS OF COMMITTEE
ON FOOD AID POLICIES AND PROGRAMS (WORLD FOOD PROGRAM)

SUMMARY: FAO COUNCIL DEC 8 ELECTED FOLLOWING FIVE COUNTRIES
TO BE MEMBERS OF COMMITTEE ON FOOD AID POLICIES AND PROGRAMS,
GOVERNING BODY OF WORLD FOOD PROGRAM: EGYPT, FRANCE , GER-
MANY (FEDERAL REPUBLIC), GUINEA AND TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO. END
SUMMARY

1. LAST WEEK, GROUP -77 INFORMALLY ADVISED SEVERAL DEVELOPED
COUNTRIES THAT WHILE IT WAS PREPARED TO CONCEDE TWO OF THE
FIVE SEATS TO DEVELOPED COUNTRIES, SPECIFICALLY TO RE-ELECTION
OF GERMANY AND FRANCE IF THEY WISHED, GROUP-77 BELIEVED SEAT
BEING VACATED BY SWITZERLAND SHOULD GO TO DEVELOPING COUNTRY,
AND THEY SPECIFICALLY PLANNED TO NOMINATE EGYPT. MOST DEV-
ELOPED COUNTRIES OPPOSED THIS IN PRINCIPLE, ON GROUNDS THAT
THIS WOULD FURTHER TILT THE BALANCE OF DONOR AND RECIPIENT
COUNTRIES, BUT PRIVATELY AMONG THEMSELVES RECOGNIZED THAT
EGYPT WAS A STRONG CANDIDATE. GROUP-77 QUIBBLED ABOUT COUNT
OF DONORS AND RECIPIENTS, CONTENDING THAT SAUDI ARABIA SHOULD
BE CONSIDERED A DONOR, TO WHICH SOME DEVELOPED COUNTRIES
COUNTERED THAT IT IS NOT TRADITIONAL DONOR AND REMAINS A MEM-
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BER OF GROUP-77, AND SHOULD PERHAPS BE PUT IN A NEW CATEGORY

AS IN IFAD.

2. FOR THE 5 SEATS, FRANCE AND GERMANY INDICATED THEIR DESIRE FOR RE-ELECTION, AND ITALY, NORWAY, AND SPAIN PUT IN FOR THE SEAT BEING ABANDONED BY SWITZERLAND. IN AN INFORMAL MEETING OF INTERESTED COUNTRIES CONVENED MONDAY, DECEMBER 6 BY UK REPRESENTATIVE, CONSENSUS WAS REACHED THAT DEVELOPED COUNTRIES SHOULD SEEK THREE SEATS AND PRESENT ONLY THREE CANDIDATES. FIVE CANDIDATES FOR THREE SEATS WERE THEN LEFT TO CONSULT AMONG THEMSELVES. FRANCE AND GERMANY WERE CONCEDED THEIR CANDIDACIES IN THIS CONSULTATION. ITALY AGREED TO WITHDRAW IF ONE OTHER WOULD WITHDRAW, BUT WHEN NORWAY AND SPAIN PERSISTED IN THEIR CANDIDACIES, ITALY IN THE END DID NOT FILE ITS CANDIDACY.

3. IN GROUP-77, SENEGAL STRONGLY WISHED TO PRESENT ITS CANDIDACY, BUT THE AFRICAN GROUP BACKED GUINEA AND SENEGAL DID NOT FILE. THE LOCAL LATIN AMERICAN REGIONAL GROUP DECIDED 15 TO 2 FOR NICARAGUA AS OPPOSED TO TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO. TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO (NOT A MEMBER OF LOCAL GROUP) STAYED IN RACE. EGYPT RECEIVED OVER-ALL ENDORSEMENT.

4. OUTCOME OF VOTE WAS AS FOLLOWS (38 BALLOTS DISTRIBUTED, AND 20 VOTES REQUIRED FOR ELECTION): ELECTED WERE GERMANY, 32; EGYPT, 28; FRANCE, 28; GUNIEA, 28; AND TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO, 24; NOT ELECTED WERE NORWAY, 19; NICARAGUA, 17; AND SPAIN 14.
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